

Forest Legacy Federal Grant Program**FY2003 Request: \$500,000**
Reference No: 34881**AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Planning**Category:** Natural Resources**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Jim Stratton**Election District:** Statewide**Contact Phone:** (907)269-8701**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2001 - 06/30/2004**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The Forest Legacy Program provides Federal funding for acquisition of high-value private forestland that is threatened with conversion to non-forest use. Legislative intent targets private in-holdings acquisition to existing conservation units (parks, refuges, etc.). Parks will purchase state park in-holdings that are primarily used for fish and wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation and traditional access that would be disrupted, destroyed, or degraded if the private property were to be converted to a non-forest use. The primary areas where these types of conversions would be used is in the state park system.

Funding:

	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000		\$2,500,000
Total:	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$2,500,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going Project
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Total Operating Impact:	0	0
One-Time Startup Costs:	0	
Additional Estimated Annual O&M:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

SLA01/CH61 - \$500,000 (Language Section 84)

Our forested state parks cover several million acres and there are private inholdings in each of these park units whose potential use threatens to convert forestland to non-forest use. Such a conversion would impact important fish and wildlife habitat. To protect this important habitat and perpetuate traditional access to important public recreation lands, Parks needs the ability to purchase inholdings from willing sellers. This is especially true in Wood-Tikchik State Park, Kachemak Bay State Park, Afognak State Park, Shuyak Island State Park, and Chena River State Recreation Area. This program is for willing sellers to sell these park inholdings to the state. Often times a park inholder is anxious to sell their property for inclusion in the park and this program allows for this type of transaction to occur. It is a win-win for the private landowner and the public. This program will provide 75% of the total acquisition cost. The non-federal portion may be from in-kind and private donations.

Specific Spending Detail:

This project will fund the acquisition of forested inholdings within State Parks and other publicly held forested areas from willing sellers. Projects are nominated by willing sellers.

Project Support:

DNR Division of Forestry, the Nature Conservancy of Alaska, local land trusts, Brown Bear Trust, private landowners, fishermen, hunters, guides.

Project Opposition:

No specific opposition known.